

SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Vol 2 No 1

JANUARY 1984

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FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY



CENTRAL FLORIDA MENSA
INVITES YOU TO

Heart of Florida R.G.

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

FEB. 17, 18, 19, 1984 PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND



Join us in Orlando for one of the best RG's yet! - Our famous 24-hour hospitality suite; reading of 1983 predictions for 1984; games room; hugging, liars & trivia contests and plenty of other fun & frolic. There will be programs interesting and out-of-the-ordinary, which might include bag pipers, sea turtles, and survival merchandise among others. If you're spending extra time in Orlando to see attractions such as EPCOT, Disney World, Sea World, etc., the RG room rates are good for your entire stay...with convenient bus service available to the attractions. Join us!!

SPECIAL!!! After dinner dancing and Presidential costume contest.

WHERE: Orlando, Florida. Howard Johnson's, I-4 at Lee Road.

Room rates: \$32 single, \$38 double. Try to reserve before Jan. 30.

REGISTRATION: \$20 before Friday the 13th of January, \$25 after.

MEALS: Saturday Banquet \$12.50. Sunday Brunch \$7.50.

CONTACT: Vicky Remus, 1508 Osprey Ave., Orlando, FL 32803. (305) 898-5905.

Judy Peabody

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Believe it or not, Judy didn't have anything to say this month. But next month she'll make up for it, because election time is upon us. According to the Space Coast Area Mensa bylaws, the candidates for the ExComm will be announced in the February SCAM. So, those who want to run for office, yet have been too modest to tell anybody, here's your final chance. A nominating committee has been appointed, with Mary Anne O'Neill as its chairperson. If you want to run for the ExComm, call Mary Anne at 777-2322, and mail your campaign statement to your humble editor at 511 Washington Ave., Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. For those of you who want to see your local group improved, changed or otherwise enhanced, here's a golden opportunity. Don't let it pass.

Your campaign statement **must** reach me by the deadline for the February issue of the SCAM. Our membership will read and consider the campaign statements in the February issue. The March issue will contain the ballots.

Steve Schneider

HERE'S THE SCAM

The Thanksgiving Pot Luck Pig Sig was an epicurean delight. We SCAM Mensans can cook!! Pumpkin, Key Lime and Mince pies topped off a repast of Mary Smoker's World Famous Dressing and Gravy, roast pork, quiche, veggies and many other assorted goodies. Every available space on the walls was decorated with rebus puzzles. The prize for the most correct solutions was a home baked cherry pie, won by Judy Peabody.

The first annual Christmas Dance featured an unknown talent of Bob Palmquist: he baked the best scratch German Chocolate cake the assemblage had ever experienced. Mary Anne O'Neill gave badly needed waltzing lessons to Steve Schneider. But as it ended up, Mary Smoker and Mary Anne ended up as the only ones who could waltz well. They made a very nice couple.

The Pig Sig at the Heidleberg Cafe served to introduce a new Mensan who has recently moved to the area, Ray Denalli. Ray is a singer, songwriter, musician and computer technician. He enjoyed with the rest of the group the accordion music, good company and old world atmosphere. There food was great, and the menu had to be read to be appreciated.

MINUTES OF THE EXCOMM MEETING

The meeting was held at the home of Jim and Judy Peabody in Cocoa on December 4th, 1983. Several items were discussed, among them was the involvement of SCAM in a Mensa Scholarship. Steve Schneider agreed to coordinate a local effort in support of setting up a competition for gifted students in the area, as well as possible financial aid in the future.

The Second Class Permit for the local newsletter has been approved by the Cape Canaveral Post Office, and a refund of a the difference between the Second Class mailing costs and the present mailing cost will be refunded.

Treasurer Rickie Wertz reported a balance of \$462.00 in the local Mensa account. This will be sufficient to fund all present activities until the next allotment is received from the National Office.

A three person committee was formed for the purpose of nominating candidates for the upcoming election and counting the ballots. The committee members are Mary Anne O'Neill, Dan Starkey and Jim Peabody.

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA JANUARY CALENDAR

- 7th Saturday 7:30PM PIG SIG**
This Month we meet at the Steak and Ale, 940 South Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne. Fantastic steaks, chicken, salad bar, and unbelievable cheese cake will tempt even the slender among us. (Are there any of you out there?) It's just north of the Makoto Japanese restaurant on US1.
For reservations, call Steve Schneider 783-8744
- 14th Saturday 7:00PM POT LUCK PICS**
This month we'll meet again at the Pines Theater and Drafthouse in the Pineridge Shopping Center, 1314 Dixon Blvd, Cocoa. As always, we will eat, drink, and make merry while watching the mystery flick. We'll wait out front until 6:45. If you arrive late, come in and look for us.
- 21st Saturday 8:00PM PARTY NIGHT**
Don't let those New Year's resolutions stand in your way. Come have a good time!! Bring your favorite game, record, tape, booze, jokes, person, etc. Rickie Wertz lives at 2707 Golfview Dr., Melbourne. From US1 head west on New Haven (Route 192). Turn south on Dairy Road, and then east onto Edgewood Drive. Take the second right onto Watkins Drive, and then the second left onto Dartmouth. This road ends in Rickie's front yard. \$2, BYOB. Call her at 723-4371 for more info.
- 22nd Sunday 2:00PM RECITAL SIG**
Don't miss an extraordinary event. Our very own Bob Palmquist will play the piano in the Sunday afternoon concert series at the Melbourne Square Mall. The program of two-piano music will include Bach, Saint-Saens, Beethoven and other popular composers. It's in the main concourse, near Adams-Baldwin Piano and Organ store. The concert will last 45 minutes.
- 29th Sunday 10:30AM BRUNCH BUNCH**
For those who missed last month's culinary extravaganza, here's an opportunity to do it again. If we arrive on time, a \$1.99 breakfast will be featured until 11:00AM. If you arrive late, come for lunch. We'll again meet at the new C. W. Dandy's at the Holiday Inn on SR.520 in Merritt Island, just west of the Merritt Square Mall. We will have our own Mensa area reserved. For more info call Bob Cornelius at 773-8144.

A MEMBER SPEAKS

By Jerry Edwards

This is an open letter of introduction. I'm a 36 year old Air Force navigator, recently assigned to duties at Patrick AFB. A past Mensan in Utah ('79-'82), and properly sorry that I let myself drift away. I am a pilot, a very ex-parachutist, Alpine skier, out-of-date scuba diver, avid reader (especially Sci-Fi), movie buff (same subject), biker (Harley Davidson) and restrained cynic of our (mankind's) stupidity. I live here in Florida with my sixteen year old son, David, who has consented to let me go to Mensa meetings and parties if I will "take him to the fun ones".

There! If this doesn't get me a hello, introduction or curse at the next Mensa function, I'm going to start carrying my "Isolated M" around with me everywhere I go! I am looking forward to meeting you. You can usually identify me by my tee shirt. (How true-- Ed.)

WORDS!!

By Mary Anne O'Neill

In Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary one definition of a "word" is "a speech sound or series of speech sounds that symbolizes and communicates a meaning without being divisible into smaller units capable of independent use."

WOW!! But words are even more complicated than that. They can be short ("a") or long ("floccinaucinihilipilification"). They can be old ("poplollo") or new ("siliconitis"). They can tickle you with "titillation", or excite you with "scintillation". They can be as bright as "incandescence" or dull as "tedium". Similar words can make you feel cold ("blizzard") or warm ("blaze"). They can be soft and "fluffy" or hard and "callous". They can be as frightening as a "massacre" or as fun as "higgledy-piggledy". They can speak of color ("rainbow") or lack of it ("drab").

Learning new words (and using them) can be fun and is the easiest way I know to increase our knowledge of the world around us. Here's some to use in January:

fuliginous - having a dark or dusky color

dipterous - having two wings

glabella - the smooth prominence between the eyebrows

spizerinctum - energy; ambition; the will to succeed

But remember-- let thy conversation communications possess a clarified conciseness, a compact comprehensibleness, coalescent consistency and a concatenated cogency, lest thou be accused of pompus prolixity. (Say what?-- Ed.)

GESUNDHEIT

By Rohn Walter

Fred Winooski sneezed. The pollen was really heavy his time of year, and even indoors his hayfeaver could give him fits.

Fred Winooski worked at Barris Corporation, Building 16, testing incoming microchips to be used in high-technology computers and communications devices, which were then usually sold to the government. Fred carefully checked the integrity of each circuit, working on a conductive static mat which kept the chip and his body at the same electrical charge. A tiny, invisible spark could conceivably damage a circuit. The charge of a styrofoam coffee cup could ruin a whole shipment.

Fred brushed his nose on his sleeve and continued work. It was nearly five, but he really needed to get a little more done. The whole division was behind, and this shipment was needed in assembly the next morning.

So Fred stayed a little while longer, gingerly removing the circuits from their cases, running the battery of tests, and placing them back in their boxes.

X X X X X X X X

The Space Shuttle Avenger was just ready to begin its descent into Earth's atmosphere after a flawless maiden voyage into space. The satellite launching went off without a hitch, and India was now able to enjoy HBO.

The belly of the Avenger was now glowing red hot, and she dropped like a brick towards Cape Kennedy. At 10,000 feet, all looked well and the ship was lined up for a perfect landing, which was a good thing, since there's no pulling a gliding brick around for a second shot at the runway.

Five miles from the runway, the switch was flipped, ordering the landing gear to drop. Nothing happened. The secondary and tertiary backups failed as well. The computer didn't understand the order. Somewhere in its vast brain, a tiny grey cell winked out, and the Avenger belly-flopped into a hideous ball of flame.

Fred Winooski had sneezed.

(Rohn asks his readers to forgive the technical errors in this story. However, he hopes that if anyone objects strongly, they will write a letter to the editor in protest, and thereby provide your humble editor material for the next issue of the SCAM.)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Harry Lloyd	2nd
Priscilla Schmincke	6th
Daniel Starkey	8th
Gene Cates	9th
Anthony Baczynski	11th
Steven Longr	12th
Albert Thomas	12th
Judy Peabody	12th
William Gray	14th
Barry Signorelli	14th
Edward Swertfager	15th
Alfred Catalano	19th
Tobert Kovacs	24th
Nathan Hines	24th
Charles Gross	28th

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Judy Peabody	3407 Frankie Ln., Cocoa 32926
Rick Meagher	50A E. Poinciana Dr., Sat Bch 32937
Alex Marton	POB 3454, Indialantic 32903
Ricki Wertz	2707 Golfview Dr., Melbourne 32901
Rohn Walter	POB 338EG, Melbourne 32935
Steve Schneider	511 Washington Ave., CC 32920

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Singles SIG	Rohn Walter	259-2323
	Ricki Wertz	723-4371

SCAM STAFF

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MENSA is a non-profit organization whose sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of approved intelligence tests. Local admission tests are administered on the first Saturday of alternate months beginning in February. For more information, contact the SCAM Proctor at 783-8744.

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